

**Town of Haverhill  
Parks & Recreation Commission  
MEETING MINUTES  
R. E. Clifford Memorial Building  
65 South Court St.  
Woodsville, NH 03785**

**Wednesday, February 10, 2021  
At 6:00 PM**

**Commission Members Present:**

Jennifer West, Chair

Sherri Sargent, Recreation Director

Sandi Pierce

Mona Sanville

Dawn Burleson

Steve Robbins, Select Board liaison

**Town Employees Present:** None.

**Select Board Representative:** Steve Robbins

**Visitors:** Anna Aguilar, Marcia Selent, Bob Hatch

The meeting was **CALLED TO ORDER** at 6:00 PM by Sherri Sargent. This meeting replaces the rescheduled meeting from February 3, 2021. A quorum was met.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Jennifer West, Chair, stated that the January 6, 2021, minutes are to be approved.

**MOTION #1:** Sanville made the motion to accept the minutes from **January 6, 2021**, and Robbins seconded the motion.

**Voice vote:** All members stated "Aye." The vote passed unanimously.

**Public Discussion:**

Bob Hatch stated that he has health issues and wanted to thank the group for offering this program which has been very beneficial to him. Sargent noted that he has lost weight because of the Walking Program, and he wanted to come to the meeting to say how much he enjoys the program.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Director's Report**

**Ice Rink**

Sargent attend the Woodsville Commissioners' meeting on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, seeking support and signatures for the Woodsville Community Field Ice Rink Memorandum of Understanding, which was approved by Primex, the Town's insurer. The Boards accepted the MOU and getting the ice rink will is in process.

**Budget Advisory Committee on January 20, 2021**

Sargent stated that the budget for recreation and parks was recommended by the Committee to be approved. There was lengthy discussion on the AP Pool and an update will follow.

### **Snowshoe Event at Blackmount Country Club on January 30, 2021**

Sargent stated that the event was well attended with 25 people showing up. Robert and Linda Stoddard have opened the golf course for the past 6 years to allow snowshoeing and enjoying the lodge. With Covid concerns, outdoor activities predominated with a barrel fire. Sargent thanked Jennifer West and Sargent's husband Brad for help setting up and to the hosts for welcoming us.

### **WinterFest 2021 in Mountain Lakes**

Sargent announced that WinterFest has been cancelled by the Mtn. Lakes Recreation Commission due to the pandemic.

### **Programs**

- **Pickleball.** Sargent noted that pickleball continues at the Clifford Building Monday and Wednesday evenings at 7:30 PM and Saturdays at 9:00 AM with Mona Sanville.
- **ZOOM Senior Stretch** exercise classes have continued remotely Monday through Fridays from 9:00 AM to 10:15 AM from the Clifford Memorial Building.
- **Acoustic Music Jams.** The 2021 schedule dates are planned for twice a month. Sargent noted that attendance is steady with about 20 audience members and 6 volunteer musicians. The next two events are February 14 and 28.
- **In-Person Movement Stretch Class.** The classes held Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 2:00 are actively attended and numbers are growing each week.
- **Haverhill Area Substance Misuse Prevention Coalition**  
Sargent reported that she attends monthly meetings via Zoom and has met with Mariah Coulstring, the program coordinator, who provided lots of promotional materials for the Recreation programs and others.
- **Paint & Sip**  
Sargent announced the Paint & Sip program had 14 people attend, which was fabulous. The instructor, Katrina, donated a much appreciated \$60.00 to the Recreation Department. The next class is scheduled for March 4.

### **Prospective New Member**

Sargent stated that Kevin VanNorden attended the Parks & Rec Commission meeting last month to consider joining the Commission as a member. West will get a date for the next Select Board meeting for his appointment by the Board.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Friends of Haverhill Recreation**

Sargent announced the possible creation of a 501 c-3 nonprofit organization, Friends of Haverhill Recreation, to supplement the Parks & Recreation Department, which, as a nonprofit, would allow more grant funding opportunities.

Anna Aguilar and Marcia Selent are interested in becoming Friends of Haverhill Recreation. Anna Aguilar supports the importance of Recreation. She continued saying that what she would like to see more of in

10 to 20 years. Marcia Selent stated that she worked with the hospital Auxiliary. Sargent noted that for people in the community looking for something to join, this would be a great endeavor. Discussion continued. Robbins will provide information about forming a nonprofit organization.

Another prospective member is Donna Borges who attends exercise class work-out session regularly and would like to be involved.

Sargent thanked the visitors for their interest.

### **AP Community Pool**

At the recent meeting of the Budget Committee, they approved the Parks & Recreation Department budget; however, and at the Select Board Budget Hearing, the AP Pool funds were not approved, and it was removed from the budget, so the department does not have the responsibility of the pool any longer.

Robbins stated that the Rec Department or the Town should not give up on the pool because it is a great asset. Discussion continued. Robbins noted that the Select Board voted to retain \$1000.00 in the pool budget for maintenance. Robbins noted that maybe the proposed recreation nonprofit organization could raise money to refurbish the pool. Robbins recommended having a capital fund for the pool. The members recommended fund raising to fix the pool.

### **Alternative Plan**

Sargent came up with an alternative plan for Select Board approval, which was to purchase a new transport van. The Select Board approved, and the Town will have a new van if the budget passes. Sargent noted that the bus could be used more than for the summer camps but year-round for senior trips, for example. Sargent suggested getting a CDL license for driving the bus.

### **Program Updates**

- **Teen Open Gym.** On Friday, February 26, the Clifford Building will be open from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM for open gym with a maximum of 40 students from Haverhill Cooperative Middle School.
- **Movie Night.** The movie The Croods 2 will be playing at the Clifford Building on Saturday, February 27, at 2 PM and again at 6:30 PM. Volunteers were requested. And, movie goers will bring their own refreshments.
- **Railroad Park Concert.** The first concert with the Parker Hill Road Band will be on Saturday, May 22, 2021, at 5:00 to 7:00 PM.
- **Paddle the Border.** The annual Paddle the Border will be held on Sunday, May 23 from Woodsville to Bedell Bridge.

### **Car Show**

Sargent announced that the Car Show will be held at the Grafton County complex (rain or shine) on Saturday, May 29, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Approval at the complex has been arranged. To do list: insurance, porta potty, cash boxes, 50/50 tickets, and raffle items. An additional list of items included tents, coolers, food, grill, tee shirts, an AED/first aid kit, and publicity/sponsors. The members agreed to stick with the 50/50 tickets and not do the raffle. Discussion of Car Show logistics continued, including

the purchase of trophies. Volunteer positions were selected: Pierce—shopping and grill; Sargent—posters, flyers, and Facebook; Sanville—vendors; and West—trophies. Car entry fee was planned for \$10 and the entry is free. West provided the name of Phil Wanat who knows the car shows in the area. The members noted that Covid precautions may still need to be in place. Sargent will reach out to local car enthusiasts and try to get more cars on site this year.

### **Quarter Auction**

The date was chosen for the Quarter Auction as October 9, 2021, with a Las Vegas theme. Pierce spoke of the Quarter Auction and how it worked in 2019 -- prizes that we have previously collected will be put up for auction and can be won with placing your bid (quarters) in the bucket on your table. Pierce noted that people purchase as many \$5 per numbered paddles and then if your number is called you win the prize. Prizes will be solicited by letter and are advertised ahead of time so people come into the event knowing what prizes will come up for auction. Sargent suggested the group get together to solicit for prizes and work together on stuffing envelopes so we can support Pierce in this process.

### **Food Truck Festival**

Robbins suggested a Food Truck Festival for fund raising, perhaps at Railroad Park. The members agreed on the idea. Farm-to-Fire owner Shawn Porter was mentioned as a food vendor, perhaps, at the first concert. Also, Vin Dogs, Chappy's French Fry, and Slicks would be invited. The goal would be to have the vendors at the first RR Park concert on May 22, 2021.

### **Chain Saw Festival**

Sargent suggested the idea from a local woodcarver.

**NEXT MEETING:** March 3, 2021, at 6:00 PM

### **ADJOURN**

**MOTION #2:** Pierce made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM, Sanville seconded the motion.

**Voice vote:** All members stated "Aye." The vote passed unanimously.

*Transcribed by Joanna Bligh*